

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 02636 202244Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 /052 W
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FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7985
INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PDIP, EC
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL ECUADOREAN REACTION TO SENATE ACTION ON
CANAL TREATIES

1. OFFICIAL ECUADOREAN RESPONSES TO THE SENATE'S RATIFICATION OF THE PANAMA CANAL TREATIES HAVE BEEN ENTHUSIASTIC. IN A CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE SENT TO PRESIDENT CARTER, GOE SUPREME COUNCIL PRESIDENT ADMIRAL POVEDA SAID THAT THE FRIENDLY DIALOGUE AND CONCILIATORY SPIRIT WHICH MARKED THE NEGOTIATIONS HERALD A NEW STATE IN FRANK AND CORDIAL HEMISPHERIC COOPERATION. POVEDA WROTE GENERAL TORRIJOS RECALLING ECUADOR'S SUPPORT FOR PANAMA'S JUST CAUSE AND DESCRIBING THE TREATIES AS A FIRM BASE FROM WHICH PANAMA CAN RECOVER ITS FULL SOVEREIGNTY.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER JOSE AYALA LIKEWISE WROTE HIS COLLEAGUES IN THE U.S. AND PANAMA. HE COMMENTED TO SECRETARY VANCE THAT THE AGREEMENTS WITH PANAMA WILL SERVE AS A VALUABLE STIMULUS TO THE RESOLUTION OF OTHER SERIOUS PROBLEMS PENDING BETWEEN COUNTRIES OF THE HEMISPHERE. ADDRESSING FOREIGN MINISTER GONZALEZ OF PANAMA, AYALA SAID ECUADOR HAD FOLLOWED THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH GREAT INTEREST AND CONCERN AND SOLIDARITY WITH THE PANAMANIAN. HE ADDED THAT THE
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UNDERSTANDINGS ACCOMPANYING THE TREATIES SHOULD NOT INFRINGE ON THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM OF RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES, ON WHICH MUTUAL RELATIONS DEPEND.

3. COMMENT: TAKEN TOGETHER, THE MESSAGES OF POVEDA AND AYALA DEMONSTRATE THE GOE'S PLEASURE IN SEEING THE TREATIES RATIFIED. THE WORDING OF THESE MESSAGES

FURTHER SUGGESTS THAT THE GOE WILL USE THE TREATIES
AS A PRECEDENT IN DISCUSSING THE BORDER ISSUE WITH
PERU. IN HIS NOTE TO GONZALEZ, AYALA WAS PROBABLY
ATTEMPTING TO STATE ECUADOR'S CONCERN THAT THE CANAL,
UPON WHICH ECUADOR DEPENDS GREATLY, BE MAINTAINED AS
AN INTERNATIONAL WATERWAY. END COMMENT.
CORR

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NNN

Message Attributes

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